



For Immediate Release

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CONGRESSMAN JACKSON VOTES IN FAVOR OF AID TO STATES, PRESERVING 310,000 JOBS

After returning to Washington for a special session of Congress to consider H.R. 1586, the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act, Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-IL) issued the following statement:

"Today, I was pleased to vote in favor of keeping teachers, nurses, police officers, firefighters and other workers on the job by providing assistance to cash-strapped state governments. I'm glad to join my colleagues in supporting American workers, students and families at this critical time. It is simply the right move for the country.

"According to the latest estimates, some 319,000 American jobs will be saved or created by this bill. That means keeping 5,700 Illinois teachers in the classroom, including 650 in my district. In addition, 300,000 Illinoisans could have lost all or part of their Medicaid coverage if today's bill had failed. What could be more worthwhile than that?

"Although Congress has worked hard to stabilize our economy in the last two years, Americans across the country are still feeling the pain of unemployment, reduced wages and economic insecurity. With the school year about to begin and millions of Americans reliant on state-funded Medicaid for their health care, today's legislation is absolutely vital."

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